

Section: SOI / ~~Conf~~ AB-43  
Reference: Cf. Spot Report 86  
Source: GEREBKOV  
Sub-Source:  
Evaluation: B-3  
SUSPECT: Victor Alexander LARIONOFF

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1. GEREBKOV has collected the following curriculum vitae from LARIONOFF, information intended for preliminary vetting of Subject:
- Born: 13.7.1897 in St.Petersburg, Russia.  
Education: "Gimnasium" and Artillery School, finished in 1917.  
1917-1920: Took part in the Russian Civil War, fought in Southern Russia, came out as a captain.  
1921-1928: Lived in Finland. Was member of an anti-Bolshevik Group led by Gen. KUTUROFF, who stood in a close contact with the Finnish Gen. Staff.  
June, 1927: Organised and personally executed a sabotage act against the Soviets, blowing up the Central Communist Party Club in Leningrad. He returned to Finland. The Soviet Government insisted that Finland either deliver LARIONOFF to Russia or expell him from Finland. (His name is listed in a Soviet book entitled "White Guardist Terror Against the USSR", Author: KITCHIKOV, Moscow, 1928. LARIONOFF has the copy of the book in his possession.)  
1928-1938: Lived in Paris with his family. Here he continued his anti-Bolshevik work. He organized an anti-Soviet Youth group which dabbled in espionage against the Soviets. - On Soviet insistence the French Government has expelled LARIONOFF in 1938.  
1938-1945: Lived in Germany. From 1938 to 44 LARIONOFF worked as a journalist for Russian language papers in Germany. After 1941 he claims not to have written any political articles. He stood in contact with the Germans with the "Ausser-politisches Amt", NOT with any SS-organizations.  
1944: LARIONOFF was invited to join the Vlasov-Freedom-Movement. He joined and was assigned to the RGA Intelligence Section under Major KALUGIN (Cf. Spot Report 99). - Though given a lot of freedom LARIONOFF could not manage to organise a very efficient espionage service within the RGA because of the continuous bickering and chaos reigning among the Vlasov-people.  
1945-1946: Lived in the French Zone of Germany. His family (wife and daughter) have settled there more-less permanently. He is still interested in intelligence work, but has decided to stay clear of the French contacts "because of their close collaboration with the Soviets", - and till now has not managed to establish any other (American or British) serious contacts.

LARIONOFF was asked now (through a cut-out) to give more details on his "recent intelligence activity, if any". Following is his answer:

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2. After the German capitulation LARIONOFF was with Gen. MALISHKIN. MALISHKIN was arrested by the Americans, LARIONOFF was discharged. After his discharge he went looking for his wife and daughter. He finally located them in the French Zone of Germany. His daughter (18 yrs old) has - thanks to her good knowledge of French and German - found a good job with the French MO. - LARIONOFF was not too kindly disposed to the French for their expulsion of him from France in 1938; he has also seen that the French, including their intelligence services, have begun to cooperate very closely with the Soviets. He decided for those reasons to avoid any "intelligence contacts" with the French. He was still interested in intelligence work, but considered only the Americans or the British as his possible employers. He has often come to Munich trying to contact some "long-range intelligence agency", but so far without success. He financed his trips to Bavaria (always coming "black-over the border") by buying the Allied marks 1 for 1 in the French Zone, and selling them in the American Zone at about 80% profit.

3. His "contact" with the French is limited to friendly relation of his daughter's French friends and of few officers of the "Croix de Peau"; none of this involves any intelligence! Once he was approached by the "SAKHAROFF-POTENNIKOV" group, who advertised their American contacts for their personal prestige - but refused to enter the group because "it does not seem to be seriously interested in anti-Soviet intelligence work, but in becoming the future leadership of the Russian emigrants". - On another occasion he was approached by the "SAKHAROFF-LAMSDORF" Group who was working for the "right wing of the IImo Bureau". Though he is very friendly with both SAKHAROFF and LAMSDORF - he found that this group did not stick strictly to their intelligence work but did a good business in black market. He is acquainted with the Group's work, and has one time promised to go into the Russian Zone for them, but their French contact, a certain Mr. CHLESNIKOFF (himself a White Russian, but a French citizen, and member of the IImo Bureau) was recalled when the whole "right wing of the IImo Bureau" was dispersed (some pensioned off, some transferred, and some kicked out of the service - a total of some 400 men). At that time CHLESNIKOFF destroyed the "SAKHAROFF-LAMSDORF" file, and their work was all but stopped.

4. LARIONOFF asks to be given a chance to prove his value in the intelligence field. He is prepared to give within two weeks reports on the following subjects:  
(a) Collaboration of the left wing of the IImo Bureau with the Soviets.  
(b) Soviet Intelligence Activity in the French Zone.  
(c) Extension of the French Intelligence Activity into the American Zone of Germany - mostly to Kusen, Munich, and Ulm.

If so desired, he is also prepared to go to Berlin, where his former secretary (when he was with the RDA Intelligence) is now in the employ of the Soviet authorities. - Another basis of operation would be for him to go to Ulm, where, according to LARIONOFF, Soviet intelligence has a net extending its pro-Soviet activity into Stuttgart and Karlsruhe.

5. LARIONOFF reports that the SAKHAROFF-LAMSDORF Group recently has made another "contact", this time with some Americans, - which LAMSDORF cynically describes as "our gas supply". They also have secured some American "papers" from an American Colonel who "visited them with a lady whose daughter lived with LAMSDORF".

6. About two weeks ago (on May 19) Mrs. NEYMAR (cf. Spot Report No. 57) also visited the French Zone in company with American Lt. Col. BUTLER. Whether this was only a friendly visit is hard to determine; Mrs. NEYMAR is an old friend of SAKHAROFF.

7. LARIONOFF used to have and still maintains close contact with the NKVD (-Natmalchiki). This contact could also be utilised when needed. ( Cf. Spot Report No. 117).

8. LARIONOFF asks to establish such an arrangement with the Americans which would allow him to work in strict secrecy. Since most Russians are apt to talk under influences of liquor he would prefer to "lions-wolf" the whole operation.

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Through our cut-out LARIONOFF asked to deal directly with the interested American. - The arranged appointment was purposely not kept. The cut-out was instructed to tell LARIONOFF that "the American was not quite ready to see him because there was a question in his mind as to LARIONOFF's French contacts", that "the American is wary of Russian promises which are big at the start but eventually dwindle to almost nothing". The cut out also told LARIONOFF that he has to prove first his intelligence ability before any sort of cooperation will be considered.

9. LARIONOFF now agreed to first write us the following reports:

- (a) Details on NKVD work in the French Zone of Germany, a follow up on his initial reports on the subject. Cf. Spot Report 118.
- (b) Details on collaboration between the IIme Bureau's left wing and NKVD.
- (c) IIme Bureau-NKVD espionage work in Bavaria.
- (d) Details on the Focke-Wolff Jet Plane manufacture at Linden and Ludwigshafen (This for SI/Munich. It was felt that enlargement of our sphere activities would not harm the situation any).

10. Answering the suspicion that he might still have French contacts, LARIONOFF refused to modify his first assertion that he "never did and does not now work with or for the French". The "suspicion", he stated, must have been caused by the fact that he is at good friendly relation with the SAKHAROFF-LAMSDORF Group who works for the "right wing of the IIme Bureau". This group has approached him several times to join them - once even asking him to make a trip for them into the Russian Zone of Germany, - but he always refused. He has never received any pay from either SAKHAROFF or from the French directly.

11. In trying to assure us of his good faith LARIONOFF stated: "You can really believe me that I will be no disappointment to your American friends, and you can really assure them of my honest and loyal collaboration. There is no other way for me to actually prove that I make this statement in utmost sincerity, for I realize that in this work one cannot settle the issue by simply giving you my word of honor.....If desired, I am prepared to move my family (wife and daughter) in to the American Zone....I can stand any test as to my good intentions and personal honesty." Our cut-out reports: "It was almost pitiful to see LARIONOFF grasping for some conclusive proof, while at the same time knowing that words alone would not suffice. Just the same, it was evident that he interpreted ~~our~~ our "suspicion" as indication of our sincerity and seriousness in our dealing with him".

12. LARIONOFF has now returned to the French Zone. He promised to return to Munich 14 June with enough material for the requested reports (cf. 59). He was told that arrangement will be made to cover his living expenses for the weeks of his proposed stay in Munich to "write his reports" and to "explore the CI possibilities in Munich". (NOTE: the "expenses" consist of loaning him an apartment and giving for operational supplies to enable him to eat during that time.)